

In the Specification:

Please add the following section at page 5, line 30, as follows:

Figure 14 is a diagrammatic view of the handling apparatus of Figure 11 breaking and threading the sheet material, where the breaking is performed by the transfer blade.

Figure 15 is a diagrammatic view of the handling apparatus of Figure 11 breaking and threading the sheet material, where the breaking is performed by the nip rolls.

Please amend the section on page 11, from lines 1 through 23, as follows. The changes in this section are shown with ~~strikethrough~~ for deleted text and underlines for added text.

Referring to Figures 11, ~~and 12~~ and 14, the transfer blade 55 can move into the path of the sheet from position 60 to position 61. The impingement of the transfer blade on the sheet breaks the sheet, creating a new initial edge 56 to the formed sheet 51. Referring to Figure 11, the motion of the transfer blade toward position 61 delivers the new leading edge toward the intake area 52. The transfer blade may have a blunt edge or a razor edge. For example, the transfer blade may contain a plurality of moving blades along its edge, or it may contain air jets 59 to apply a burst of air during the breaking and/or delivery process (Figure 13).

A2 The breaking of the sheet may be accomplished by the action of the nip rolls (Figure 15), by the action of the transfer blade (Figure 14), or by the nip rolls and transfer blade together (Figure 12). The nip rolls are capable of breaking the sheet by increasing their speed of rotation, when the nip rolls are already in contact with the sheet, or by contacting the sheet at a speed greater than the speed of the web. When the sheet is broken by the nip rollers, the newly formed initial edge 56 is threaded to the processing machine by the transfer blade. The transfer blade contacts the sheet and delivers it to the processing machine, through any machinery or instrumentation, shown generally as 70 in Figures 11-~~13~~15, that is positioned between the forming machine and the processing machine. The transfer blade may also contribute, in part or in whole, to the breaking of the sheet. The impact of the blade, particularly when the sheet is in tension between the nip rolls and the idler nip, separates the sheet, and the newly formed portion is delivered to the processing machine.
